

Troopers Continue Investigation into Smyrna Homicide



Presented by the Director of Public Information Sergeant Richard D. Bratz

Smyrna, DE – Delaware State Police are continuing the investigation into the assault and death of a 63 year old Clayton man which occurred in April.

The investigation began on Wednesday, April 27, 2016, after James Leager, 63, of Clayton, DE was found suffering from serious injuries in his vehicle on a farm property in the 700 block of Blackbird-Greenspring Road, Smyrna. Leager, who was suffering from serious injuries to his head and torso, was treated at the scene by Kent County Paramedics before being transported to Kent General Hospital. He remained at the hospital until his death due to complications from blunt-force trauma on May 17, 2016. No arrests have been made at this time.

The Delaware State Police Homicide Unit assumed the investigation in mid-June and detectives are interested in speaking to anyone who may have seen or spoken with Leager in the days leading up to the assault. The victim's vehicle was a bronze-colored 2011 Ford F150 pick-up truck with Delaware registration. Leager was a life-long resident of the Smyrna-Clayton area and was well known in the community.

If anyone has information in reference to this incident, they are asked to contact Detective Daniel Grassi at (302) 365-8441. Information may also be provided by calling [Delaware Crime Stoppers](#) at 1-800-TIP-3333, by sending an anonymous tip by text to 274637 (CRIMES) using the keyword "DSP" or via the internet at www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com.

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